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THE Sovereign of the moſt Noble Order of the Garter having conſtituted the Honourable William Finch, Eſq; his Majeſty's Plenipotentiary to the High and Mighty Lords the States-General of the United Provinces, and John Anſtis, Eſq; Garter Principal King of Arms, to be his Plenipotentiaries for inveſting his Highneſs William-Charles-Henry-Friſo, Prince of Orange and Naſſau, lately elected a Companion of that Order, with the Garter, George, and the other Enſigns and Habits thereof; Mr. Anſtis landed at Rotterdam upon Friday the 17th Day of July, N. S. in the Evening, and next Morning haſtened to the Hague, where attending upon Mr. Finch, they in the Afternoon had a private Audience of his Highneſs, to whom Mr. Finch made the proper Salutations, and then they delivered their Credential Letters ſign'd by the Sovereign, and ſealed with the Signet of the Order; which his Highneſs having peruſed, was pleaſed to declare, that he was very ſenſible of the great Honour his Majeſty deſign'd for him: Garter then taking the Book containing the Statutes of the Order, atteſted under the Great Seal, encloſed in a Silver Box whereon the Arms of the Sovereign were engraven, and having kiſſed it, delivered the ſame to Mr. Finch, who preſented it to his Highneſs, that he thereby might be fully apprized of ſuch Engagements as would be required from him upon his Acceptance of this Order. To which his Highneſs replied, That he would take the firſt Opportunity to examine every Article of them.

Upon Wedneſday the 22d following, his Highneſs declared his Readineſs to accept theſe Statutes under ſome Reſervations, which were reduced into Writing in the following Words: ' *Quatenus obſervari poſſint, ac de-*
' *beant, dum verbo Dei & profeſſæ a Nobis*
' *Religioni non adverſarentur, & quatenus*
' *juribus & privilegiis Sacri Romani Im-*
' *perii, & juribus & privilegiis Reipublicæ*
' *Fœderati Belgii inferioris, ſive in particu-*
' *lari earum Provinciarum quarum ſumus*
' *Gubernator, aut juramentis quibus eiſdem*
' *aſtricti ſumus, nullatenus derogarent.*

The Plenipotentiaries agreed to allow all theſe ſeveral Conditions and Reſervations; whereupon his Highneſs having ſigned and ſealed an Inſtrument, certifying his Reception of the Order in that Manner, Garter King of Arms then delivered the Garter (the chief Enſign of the Order, which was adorned with 545 Brilliant Diamonds) to Mr. Finch, which they forthwith buckled upon the Left Leg of his Highneſs, in his Houſe at the Hague; Garter then reading the uſual Admonition in the Engliſh Language, which his Highneſs underſtands, and ſpeaks very diſtinctly.

Then they placed over the Left Shoulder of his Highneſs the Blue Ribbon with the George pendant thereto, bringing that Ribbon athwart under his Right Arm, Garter then reading the accuſtomed Admonition; and the irradicated Star, or Glory, was fixed upon the Left Side of his Highneſs's Coat, purſuant to a Diſpenſation granted under the Seal of the Order for that ſpecial Purpoſe.

It being agreed, that the remaining Rites of the Inveſtiture ſhould be performed in his Highneſs's Houſe, called the Houſe in the Wood, diſtant a Mile and half from the Hague, which was built by the Princeſs Amelia de Solms, Relict of Frederick-Henry, Prince of Orange, and Knight of this Order; Preparations were made for that Purpoſe in the Salon there, calld the Salon d' Orange, becauſe it is adorned with the Repreſentations of the heroical Exploits of the ſame Fredrick-Henry, painted by the greateſt Maſters.

The upper Part of this Room was upon this Occaſion raiſed two Steps, and rail'd in, and covered with Turky Carpets; in the Middle whereof a Stall was erected with a Canopy for the Sovereign, in which Stall, above the Chair, his Royal Arms and Titles were fixed; and at ſome Diſtance, on the Left Side of it, another Stall was erected, with a Canopy, for his Highneſs, having an Eſcutcheon of his Arms, inſcribed with his Styles, ſet up likewiſe over the Chair: Which two Stalls were placed conformable to the Situation of them in the Chapel at Windſor. On the Right and Left Sides of thoſe Rails Spaces were left, wherein Chairs were placed for the Reception of the Deputies of the States of Guelderland, Friſeland, and Groningen, and for Ladies, Noblemen, and Perſons of great Diſtinction. On the Sides of this Salon there were Scaffolds built for other Spectators, covered with Cloth. During the Time that theſe Preparations were making in that Houſe, his Highneſs was pleaſed to demand from Garter, whether the Knights Elect, when they came to receive their Inſtallations at Windſor, were not apparelled in ſome particular Under Habits, which they wore upon their Introductions into the Chapter-houſe there? Whereto Garter returned Anſwer, That King Charles the Second, in the Year 1661, obſerving, that the Companions at that Time appeared in Under-Habits made of different Materials, and of different Faſhions; therefore thought fit to ordain, that for the future all Knights Companions ſhould wear under their Surcoats, a Doublet with the ancient Trunk Hoſe, or Br[illegible], [illegible]

of Cloth of Silver, in an uniform Faſhion, at the Solemnities of Inſtallations, and the Celebrations of St. George's Feaſt (which two Ceremonies are tied down by the Statutes to be performed at Windſor locally.) So that this Decree hath always been underſtood not to comprehend the Inveſtitures of Foreign Princes ſolemnized beyond Sea; inſomuch, that no ſuch Under-Habits have ever been prepared by the Officers of the Sovereign's Wardrobe by any Warrant upon ſuch Occaſions. His Highneſs thereon ſaid, that though this Decree, in the Strictneſs of its Terms, might not extend to this his Caſe, yet being reſolved to obſerve every Article or Cuſtom uſed by any Companions elected, how minute ſoever, he would give Order that ſuch Under-Habits ſhould be provided.

Upon Saturday the 25th of July, the Day appointed for compleating the Inveſtiture, his Highneſs came to his Houſe in the Wood, having under his ordinary Apparel the Doublet and Trunk-Hoſe, both of Cloth of Silver, together with Shooes and Gloves made in the ſame Form and Materials with thoſe commonly worn by the Companions at Windſor; and retired into an inner Chamber, where after ſome Repoſe, the Plenipotetentaries diſrobed him of the Ribbon and George thereto pendant, and of his Upper Habit, and took off his Sword (which was worn by Garter King of Arms during the Reſidue of theſe Ceremonies.)

His Highneſs being thus in his Under-Habits, with the Diamond Garter about his Leg, ſuch Rites were performed in that Place, as would have been done, in caſe his Highneſs had been introduced into the Chapter-Houſe at Windſor; that is, Garter took up the Surcoat of the Order, and delivered it to Mr. Finch, wherewith they jointly inveſted his Highneſs, Garter then reading the Admonition in Engliſh given upon ſuch Occaſions; and then theſe Plenipotentiaries girded upon his Highneſs the Sword of the Order, hanging to a Crimſon Velvet Girdle, or Belt, over the Surcoat.

Which being done, a Proceſſion was regularly made to the Salon d' Orange, through the Chambers (which are all hung with the richeſt Tapeſtry in diſtinct Pieces, each of them repreſenting one of the Anceſtors of the Prince of Orange, in the direct Male Line, from Adolphus of Naſſau Emperour of Germany, with Draughts of their famous Military Atchievements, and having the Effigies of their reſpective Conſorts, whoſe Names and Arms are inſcribed thereon, down to King William the Third and Queen Mary inclusive.)

The Gentlemen and Officers of his Highneſs begun it, going by Pairs in Breaſt,

Two Barons de Sloet, Gentlemen of his Highneſs.

Count Maurice of Naſſau, Gentleman of his Highneſs, Lieutenant of Foot in the Service of the Republick of the United Provinces, having on his Right Hand the Baron of Patkul, another Gentleman of his Highneſs, Captain of Foot in the ſame Service.

M. Bigot, another Gentleman of his Highneſs, Captain of Foot in the ſame Service, having on his Right Hand the Count de Kilmanſeck, Gentleman likewiſe to his Highneſs.

The Count Henry de Naſſau, another Gentleman to his Highneſs, and Captain of a Troop of Horſe in the Service of the Republick of the United Provinces, having on his Right Hand M. de Saumaiſe, Gentleman to his Highneſs, Captain of Foot in the ſame Service.

The Baron of Groveſteins, another Gentleman to his Highneſs, and Captain of Horſe in the ſame Service, having on his Right Hand the Count de Naſſau Beverweerd, another Gentleman to his Highneſs, Major of a Regiment of Horſe in the ſame Service.

The Baron of Aylva, Great Maſter of the Horſe to his Highneſs, Grand Bailiff of the Town and County of Buren, and Colonel of a Regiment of Foot in the Service of the Republick of the United Provinces, having on his Right Hand the Baron de Lynden, Lord of Parck, Great Maſter of the Houſhold of his Highneſs, Brigadier General, and Colonel of a Regiment of Horſe in the ſame Service.

Mr. Pomfret, Purſuivant, by the Title of Rouge Croix, habited in the Tabart or Coat of Arms of the Sovereign, carried the Cap with Plumes of Oſtrich Feathers with the Hern Top; the Front of the Bever, or Brim, of this Cap was enriched in the Middle with a Diamond of an extraordinary Size, weighing 40 Carats, and at ſome Diſtance from it ſeveral other Diamonds were placed, each of them weighing from 11 to 14 Carats. The Edge of this Bever was adorned with 37 very large Oriental Pearls, and round the Cap many other Diamonds were placed in the Manner of an Hatband.

Mr. Anſtis, jun. in the Coat of a King of Arms, with the Collar of SS, having the Badge belonging to him as an Officer of the moſt Honourable Order of the Bath, pendant to a red Ribbon, carried in a Caſe of red Velvet the great Collar of the Order, to which the George, cut upon an Onyx Stone, and ſurrounded with 13 large Brilliant Diamonds was pendant; and ſo hung as to appear to the View of all Perſons preſent.

Garter King of Arms, habited in his proper Mantle, and wearing his Badge or Medal hung to a Chain of Gold, carried upon a crimſon Velvet Cuſhion fringed with Gold the Sovereign's Commiſſion, the Mantle and Taſſels, the Hood of the Order, with the Book containing the Statutes.

Mr. Finch proceeded ſingly.

His Highneſs the Prince of Orange in his Surcoat girded with the Sword.

Immediately upon the Entry into the Salon, the Gentlemen and Officers of his Highneſs thus proceeding by Pairs, made their Obeiſances, jointly towards the Stall of the Sovereign, and repeated the ſame in the Middle, and again upon their aſcending the Haut-pas; as all others, who afterwards entred ſingle, made their three Obeiſances in the like Manner towards the Sovereign's Stall.

The Purſuivant and King of Arms depoſited the Enſigns carried by them upon a Table placed near to the Stall of his Highneſs, and retiring ſtood by the Rails, and then Garter laid down the Cuſhion with the Enſigns upon the ſame Table; Mr. Finch in the mean time came near to an Elbow Chair upon the Right, and Garter then went near to another Elbow Chair upon the left Side of the Prince's Stall; while his Highneſs took his

Chair

Chair under the Canopy of his Stall, where being pleaſed to ſit down, the Plenipotentiaries did the ſame in their ſeveral Chairs.

The Muſick played for ſome Time, and when it ceaſed, Mr. Finch aroſe and made an Obedience towards the Sovereign's Stall, which was likewiſe done at the ſame Time by Garter, who both turning themſelves to the Prince, then alſo ſtanding up, Mr. Finch made a Speech in Engliſh, ſetting forth the Antiquity and Dignity of this moſt noble Order, wherein, among other Particulars, he obſerved, that ſeveral Princes of Orange of the moſt illuſtrious Family of Naſſau, had been Companions of it, and that one of them had been the Sovereign: That his Majeſty the King of Great Britain maturely conſidering the Splendour of this Family, and the perſonal Merits of his Highneſs, had ſent to him all the Enſigns, Habits and Ornaments of it (pointing to them lying on the Table) as the firſt Mark and Teſtimony of his great Affection and Eſteem. To which his Highneſs return'd a ſuitable Anſwer.

Garter then making his Obedience towards the Sovereign's Stall, took up the Commiſſion, and having kiſſed it, delivered the ſame to Mr. Finch, who preſenting it to the Prince, his Highneſs forthwith delivered it to M. Arnoldi, his Counſellor and Secretary, to be read aloud; during which Time all Perſons ſtood up, and the Secretary with the greateſt Submiſſion returning it to the Prince, his Highneſs gave it to Garter, to be preſerved in the Archives of the Order.

The Muſick then played again for ſome Time, while his Highneſs repoſed himſelf in his Stall, and the Plenipotentiaries ſate in their Chairs. Garter then aroſe, and made his Obedience towards the Sovereign's Stall, and his Reverence alſo to the Prince, and taking from the Table the Mantle of the Order, delivered it to Mr. Finch, who, aſſiſted by Garter, inveſted his Highneſs therewith, Garter reading the Admonition preſcribed.

In the ſame Form the Hood was delivered and fixed upon the Right Shoulder of his Highneſs.

Garter then took up the great Collar of the Order, with the George embelliſhed with Diamonds thereto appendant, and having kiſſed it, preſented it to Mr. Finch, who jointly with Garter placed it upon the Shoulders of his Highneſs, over the Surcoat and Hood, Garter then pronouncing the proper and accuſtomed Admonition.

The Plenipotentiaries then preſented to his Highneſs the Book containing the Statutes of the Order, and his Highneſs then delivered to them authentick Letters under his Hand and Seal, certifying his Reception of the Order, with his Promiſe to obſerve the Statutes under the Reſervations formerly expreſs'd and ſtipulated.

The Cap with the Feathers was then preſented by the Plenipotentiaries to his Highneſs, who after making an Obeiſſance to the Sovereign's Stall, put it on, and ſat down in his Stall, as did the Plenipotentiaries in their Chairs.

After a ſhort Repoſe Garter aroſe, and making his Obedience to the Sovereign's Stall, and his Reverence to the Prince, proclaimed the Styles of the Sovereign, and alſo of the Prince, in the Latin Tongue, becauſe Perſons of different Languages were there preſent; during which Proclamations the Prince ſtood up, holding his Cap with the Feathers in his Hand.

This Proclamation of the Styles being made, the Trumpets ſounded and Kettle Drums beat.

Mr. Finch then congratulated his Highneſs in a ſhort Speech, to which his Highneſs returned a proper Anſwer.

The Muſick then played, and the Inveſtiture being thus perfected, a Return was made from the Salon with the ſame Ceremonies as had been obſerved upon the Entry into it, with this Addition, that a Reverence was made to the Prince, as long as he continued in his Stall; and that when his Highneſs deſcended from the Haut pas, four of his Pages (who ſtood near the Rails) bore the Train of his Mantle.

His Highneſs being thus in the full Habits of the Order, was pleaſed to ſhew himſelf, by walking upon the Pavement below the Portal, to a great number of Perſons then without the Houſe, who expreſſed their Rejoicings by loud Acclamations.

His Highneſs retired into the inner Chambers, and the Stalls, Canopies, Haut pas, and Scaffoldings being removed, a Table was placed in the Salon; and the firſt Meſſes being ſet upon it, his Highneſs being then in his Surcoat only, with the great Collar over it (according to the Practice at Windſor in hot Days) entred, and ſat down in the Middle of the Table on the Right Side thereof, having Mr. Finch on his Right, and Garter, wearing his Mantle, on his Left hand; all other Perſons who dined at that Table indiſcriminately and promiſcuouſly ſeating themſelves in the Chairs that chanced to be next to them, without any Regard to Precedency. Theſe were the Deputies of the States of Guelderland, Friſeland, and Groningen. There dined likewiſe at this Table M. d' Ayrolle, the King of Great Britain's Miniſter, M. Sporken, his Majeſty's Miniſter as Elector, his Grace the Duke of Queensberry, and the Right Honourable the Earl Grahme.

The Prince's Cap, by reaſon of the Heat, was held behind his Chair by a Page during the greateſt Part of the Dinner; But when the Deſert had remained ſome Time upon the Table, his Highneſs put it on, and after a little Interval aroſe and took it off, and was pleaſed to drink Health to the King of Great Britain Sovereign of the moſt Noble Order of the Garter; which was pledged by every one at the Table ſtanding, having Glaſſes of Wine ready fill'd for that Purpoſe, the Trumpets ſounding and Drums beating during that Time. His Highneſs then named the Health of the Queen of Great Britain, next the Healths of the Prince of Wales and Duke of Cumberland, Companions of the Order, and then the Healths of all the other Companions: The Health of the Princeſs Royal of Great Britain, and laſtly, the Healths of the Four Princeſſes; which were all ſeverally pledged with the like Ceremonies.

Mr. Finch then drank the Health of his Highneſs the Prince of Orange; next that of the Princeſs Mother of his Highneſs, and then, Proſperity to the Republick of the United Provinces.

His